

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application. Claims 3-8 and 10 have been amended to avoid multiple dependency. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended to improve readability and clarity. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21029-00270-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Brian J. Hairston, Reg. No. 46,750
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036-3425
(202) 331-7111
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant